

amount. My husband and I are very appreciative of their support."

Money provided by the MAV Foundation does not replace motorcycle insurance.

"We help with the first 90 to 120 days until insurance kicks in, with items such as food, electric, phone bill and other necessities, Golden said. "We don't help with the motorcycle or medical bills. We're nowhere near that large at this time."

Golden said, "Those who have requested assistance from the foundation have been extremely honest. In fact, those who have their insurance kick in and help them early will call and cancel their paperwork so that their fellow motorcyclist who needs it will receive the funds."

Board secretary Vee Marshall said those who received support have been very appreciative.

"We support motorcyclists of all ages in the tri-state area, mainly Delaware," Marshall said. "It's our 13th year, so people are finally finding out about us, and we hope to help more people in the future by providing help with bills and gift certificates for food."

Golden said other clubs or organizations don't normally have money designated for crisis support, which makes the MAV Foundation unique.

The other motorcycle organizations use the money they raise for other reasons," he said.

"One example is that ABATE of Delaware's funds are for legislative battles in Dover protecting bikers' rights. [Other motorcycle organizations] do charity events for Ronald McDonald House, A.I. duPont Hospital for Children and Child Inc., etc. My wife and I chaired [some of] these events and held officer positions in ABATE. Other Clubs use the funds raised for their own reasons. I'm proud to be a part of [the MAV Foundation] and help. With more bikers on the road these days, we need all the support we can get."

The foundation is funded mainly through the special events it holds. On average, the foundation organizes two or three fundraisers each year, in the form of dances, runs and entertainment events. It also receives funds from purchases of its online products, and last year the organization became part of the United Way network, through which donators can designate the MAV Foundation for a contribution.

On Aug. 18, the foundation held its first Downtown Newark Bike and Blues Festival, with music entertainment and a police-escorted motorcycle parade.

"Working in partnership with the city of Newark, this fundraiser was very successful, and we had a great number of sponsorships from local businesses," Golden said.

"Each year, our sponsorships seem to get bigger, and we have numerous motorcycle and local business vendors who participate. Bikers from different organizations volunteered, and it was a great day for bikers and nonbikers alike."

The Christian Motorcycle Club helped with the blues festival this year. President Orland Pitts said, "We're a riding club devoted to provide service and reach out to others through Christ. Many of us know Jim-Bob and the MAV Foundation and appreciate how the organization makes a difference in the community. The foundation has a terrific mission: It provides a commitment to families of motorcyclists in need."

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